

Submitted by Sen. Arroyo**The New York Times** | <http://nyti.ms/17XoVGK>

MIDDLE EAST

Text of Letter From Hekmati to Kerry

SEPT. 11, 2013

Following is the text of a handwritten letter from Amir Hekmati, an American of Iranian descent who has been incarcerated in Iran for more than two years on espionage charges, addressed to Secretary of State John Kerry.

*2013-09-01**To: Mr. John Kerry, Secretary of State, US State Department**From: Amir Hekmati**SSN: — — — — —**Dear Mr. Kerry*

I first of all would like to thank you and your department for your sincere efforts in supporting me and securing my release. My family and I are extremely grateful and appreciate the value the State Department places on U.S. citizens. For over 2 years I have been held on false charges based solely on confessions obtained by force, threats, miserable prison conditions, and prolonged periods of solitary confinement. This is part of a propaganda and hostage taking effort by Iranian intelligence to secure the release of Iranians abroad being held on security-related charges. Iranian intelligence has suggested through my court-appointed lawyer Mr. Hussein Yazdi Samadi that I be released in exchange for 2 Iranians being held abroad. I had nothing to do with their arrest, committed no crime, and see no reason why the U.S. Government should entertain such a ridiculous proposition. I do not wish to set a precedent for others that may be unlawfully (obtained) for

political gain in the future. While my family and I have suffered greatly I will accept nothing but my unconditional release. The very same suffering that the 3 American hikers have recently suffered and many others by these unlawful tactics. My hope is that those individuals within the Iranian government who respect rule of law and international ethics will intervene in my case. As someone of Iranian heritage, I hope that the Iranian people will also support me and call on their government to respect my legal rights.

*Respectfully,
Amir Hekmati*

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114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 233

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should immediately release the three United States citizens that it holds, as well as provide all known information on any United States citizens that have disappeared within its borders.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 29, 2015

Mr. KILDEE (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. ENGEL, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should immediately release the three United States citizens that it holds, as well as provide all known information on any United States citizens that have disappeared within its borders.

Whereas three United States citizens have been held captive in Iran, some of them for multiple years;

Whereas one United States citizen disappeared in Iran over eight years ago; and

Whereas Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has stated that his government wishes to engage in a constructive interaction with the world: Now, therefore, be it